## JIK Aide Muzzled Me, Colonel Says

By HAL HENDRIX

CPYRGHT

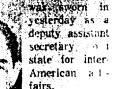
Miami News Latin America Editor

A new charge of White House muzzling of miliofficers exploded in Miami today - this one rung around last April's Cuban invasion debacle.

retired air force colonel. termerly was U.S. air atin Cuba and played a and the scenes role here in invasion aftermath, chargthat a "scared" White ise aide had suppressed and his assistant from rning other Air Force sions on the details of the Culian Hasco.

arried D. Steyers, who ica led, an Ali Force mission chere alter diplomatic re-.. sere broken with Cuba. suppression was apliel Richard N. Goodwin threat of forfeiting their mil carcers.

e 3 year-old Coodwin, who ingreely was President Konnespecial White House advis-Late American affairs. was assort in



Goodwin. who according to hemisphere

critics began re-sub-training as a Latin mean "exper" after Presg heanedy took office, oil a key Washington part and than invasion planning and the Central Intelligence and in post-invasion with Cuban exile

Col. Stevers said that during the first week of last June he and his assistant, Maj. Robert conterence of U.S. air attaches America. The meeting was in Panama.



"At this meeting I was scheduled to talk on the Cuban situation," he said.

"However upon my arrival" at the Carlbbean Air Command I was informed by a general from USAF Intelligence in Washington that I wouldn't be permitted to say anything concerning the inva-

This was despite the fact that these officers (attending the conference, above all others, had the need and right to know what had happened and why They are serving in countices where situations could develop like they did in Cuba.

This general officer stated that an official investigation was being made by Gen, Maxwell: Taylor in Washington and the facts would be revealed at the 'proper time

"Now I know, as I suspected

then, that this pression. The fac been revealed.

"I later OTA Took ders came from Richard Good win at the White House.

"Upon the return of my assistant and myself to Miami, our secretary informed us that our telephone had been dis-

Connected on orders from Washington.' "

Stevers recalled that shortly afterward he was notified by the Central Intelligence Agenby that the Force headquarters n Washington had ordered the Miami office closed and there thould be "absolutely no further business conducted."

"We subsequently learned that Goodwin apparently was Van Horn, attended the annual and some of our records might be disclosed." he added. "We and mission chiefs to Latin 15ad been told by the CIA to get our records in order and forward them right away to Washington.

> "'Next, we were ordered to Washington for a protracted pegiod on orders of Goodwin.

"Our headquarters advised That I was on leave and could enot be readily reached Maja Van Horn went to Washington and cooled his heels in a sort of 'outer office a rest's for Three weeks.

"He was questioned by Goodwin only once in that period. and then very briefly. But. Goodwin put the fear into him In making it plain not to talk about the Cuban invasion.

"A month later he (Maj. Van Horn) was transferred to Mexic co and I retired July 1.

"In the service, my chances for any effective activity had come practically to zero, as in my opinion, have all the other military in the Latin American attache and mission fields."

Goodwin could not be reached for comment on the charges.

"I am not provid in any series of being part of this distanted Cuban business," he said.

"With saity a modest store on our part, in either live tages, the middle of later part, a complete victory could have been gained for Cahang the U.S. and freedom-device. the U.S. and freedom-joying peoples everywhere.

"I was on duty station in Havana from June 15, 1960 to Jan. 4, 1961, at which time I made the last flight with embassy records and personnel to Key West."

(This was, when the United States and Cuba severed diplomatic relations.

"I was, for the most part, an unhappy observer to this portion of the Communist take-ever. The Americans were told, 'just hold still now and we will take care of you later - everything is going to come out all right."

"Although very apprehensive about this. I thought those wiser

than I have a plan for success which will be revealed at the right time - despite appearances, surely we could not be alding in the enslavement of six million Cibans, our closest friends in Latin America.



"The last half of 1960, dedicated and patriotic members of the Cuban underground gave their lives in ever-increasing num bers in the counter-revolutionary movement.

"Initially, with some U. S. support, they set up several, frocts in the mountains. Cubans flocked to those areas. The only limiting factor was the amount of support.

"Castro threw everything he had at the principal front in the Escambray, Raul Castro went there and failed. Che Guevara stated he would never return to Havana until every counterresolutionary was dead. He herded his militia up the hills

Sanitized - Approved For Release: CIA-RDP75-00149R000300180058-0